

News

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Let's flap our wings



Vol. 42, No. 15 374th Airlift Wing Yokota Air Base, Japan Friday, April 20, 2001

Gamble retires after 33 years of service

By Tech. Sgt. Chris Haug Pacific Air Forces News Service

HICKAM AIR FORCE BASE. Hawaii Gen. Patrick K. Gamble was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal by Gen. Michael E. Ryan during Gamble's retirement ceremony here April 9.

Gamble departs Hawaii this evening to begin his new career as president and chief executive officer of the Alaska Railroad Corp., Anchorage, Alaska.

During the ceremony, Gamble reflected on his service in the Air Force, and thanked all who supported him along the way.

"The Air Force is a value-based organization," Gamble said. "Integrity, service, honesty, respect, and dignity - these foundations have always been the background of teamwork – a characteristic I truly loved in each of the units I belonged to or commanded."

Gamble said he applauds the high concern of Air Force leadership for quality of life for its people. "It is better today than it has ever been over my 33 years," he said.

Speaking of the future, Gamble said that the "Air Force is going through a sophisticated transformation today that is unlike any other time I've known. It will revolutionize our service and prepare it for a highly uncertain future. Particularly the future in the Pacific."

"Ailese and I thank you all for your



Gen. Michael E. Ryan, Air Force chief of staff, pins a Distinguished Service Medal on Gen. Patrick K. Gamble's, Pacific Air Forces commander, lapel just prior to Gamble's retirement from the Air Force after 33 years of service. Gamble left Hawaii April 9 to assume duties as president and chief executive officer of the Alaska Railroad Corp., Anchorage, Alaska.

friendship, support, trust, and confidence,"

In his comments prior to retiring Gamble,

Ryan spoke of Gamble's service record. Gamble began his service in the Air Force as a forward air controller in Vietnam. He flew 394 combat missions in support of ground operations for which he was decorated for valor.

Ryan highlighted Gamble's work with an organization nicknamed "Checkmate," which is an operationally oriented analysis group at the Pentagon.

"In the late seventies and early eighties, General Gamble analyzed the strategic importance, access needs, and prepositioning requirements of the Persian Gulf," Ryan said. "His insights proved prescient and contributed greatly to the success of Desert Storm just ten years later."

"As PACAF commander, he has used all of his impressive intellectual and leadership talents, to match the challenges and successes he's faced in the Pacific theater," Ryan concluded. "At every turn, he has led with the welfare of his people as a priority. A leadership trait formally recognized by his enlisted force just this past week when he was presented with the highest honor they can bestow on a leader - the Order of the Sword."

Gamble's wife was also honored by Ryan during the ceremony when he presented her with the Exceptional Service Award for service as PACAF's first lady - dedicated to improving the morale and quality of life of active duty, retired, Guard and Reserve personnel and their families throughout the command.

Gamble's official retirement is effective May 1. (PACAFNS)

kota enters no heat

By Master Sgt. Richard Williamson 374th Civil Engineer Squadron

Yokota has entered the no heat/no cool season

The 374th Civil Engineer Squadron began cutting off the heat April 12 and will probably start turning on the air conditioning sometime in May. This is done twice a year, in the spring going from the heating to the cooling season and in the fall going from the cooling to the heating season. For most facilities, this means a two to four week period where there is no heat or air conditioning.

The main focus is to maintain temperatures at levels that enhance quality of life for the majority of base residents and workers, plus conserve energy and Air Force dollars. The base achieves this through an indoor temperature standard that is nationally recognized by the standards-setting organization and approved by the 374th Airlift Wing commander. This standard identified 75 degrees Fahrenheit and 45 percent relative humidity for indoor air conditions to be comfortable to the majority of people. However, personal comfort levels can vary greatly.

"It is impossible to please everyone with one standard policy, but we have developed a plan that takes into consideration temperature and relative humidity, mission requirements, and energy conservation goals," said Maj. Gregory Rollins, CE Operations Flight commander. "Although temperatures in facilities will vary, especially during the no heat/ no cool period; we will strive to maintain an indoor air temperature mix of 75 degrees and 45 percent relative humidity whenever possible."

The no heat/no cool period serves several purposes. First, it allows Heating, Air Conditioning and Ventilation personnel to perform seasonal maintenance. This ensures the air conditioning systems are ready to operate for the summer.

Second, many of the facilities have chilled-water cooling systems. These chilled-water systems use the same pipes and water as the heating system and require a cooling down period to prevent damage to them. If the seasonal mainte nance and the cooling down period do not occur, the potential for a major system failure is greatly increased.

"This is very important to CES and the wing since many of our systems are 25+ years old," said Rollins.

Third, it allows the wing to take advantage of moderate weather and temperatures where heating and cooling of facilities in not needed thus saving utility expenses.

"The HVAC/R and Heating Operations shop continually strive to maintain a comfortable living environment for everyone on Yokota," said Rollins. "However, this is a very busy time of year for the shops so expect delays in service,

see COOL page 2

President Bush names new PACAF commander

By Tech. Sgt. Chris Haug Pacific Air Forces News Service

HICKAM AIR FORCE BASE, Hawaii The President nominated the current assistant Air Force vice chief of staff to become the next Pacific Air Forces commander April 9.

Lt. Gen. William J. Begert, who has also been recommended for promotion to general, must be confirmed by the Senate prior to reassignment.

Begert is currently responsible for the organization and administration of the Air Staff at Headquarters United States Air Force, Washington D.C. He serves as deputy chairman of the Air Force council, and is the Air Force accreditation official for the Corps of Air Attachés.

Prior to his assignment at the Pentagon, Begert served as the vice commander, Headquarters U.S. Air Forces in Europe, Ramstein Air Base, Germany.

Begert served in the Pacific as an O-2A

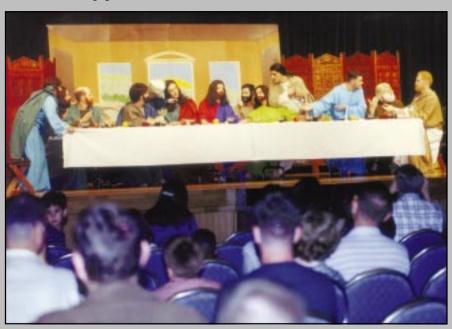
forward air controller and flight examiner pilot for the 20th Tactical Air Support Squadron at Da Nang Air Base, South Vietnam, from January 1972 to January 1973. While assigned to the 20th, he flew more than 300 combat missions over Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos

Following Senate confirmation of his promotion and reassignment, Begert will assume leadership duties as the 28th PACAF commander from Gen. Patrick K. Gamble who officially retires May 1.

Gamble's retirement ceremony was held here April 9 ending his 33-year career in the Air Force. As the 27th PACAF commander, Gamble took the lead for U.S. Air Force activities in the Asia-Pacific theater in July 1998. He will soon serve as president and chief executive officer of the Alaska Railroad Corp., Anchorage, Alaska.

For more information on Begert and his career go to his official biography at http:// www.af.mil/news/biographies/ begert_wj.html. (PACAFNS)

Lord's supper



Base members portray the Lord's final meal before going to the cross in a reallife dramatization of the famous painting, entitled 'The Last Supper,' by Leonardo Da Vinci. The event was sponsored by the base chapel and had two performances, April 12-13 at the Taiyo Recreation Center. More than 300 people came out to see the dramatization.

COOL from page 1

but know that we work as fast as possible to resolve your issue. We appreciate your patience and understanding throughout the year. Remember, we are here to serve."

To determine seasonal changeover, the following crite-

Mission Critical facilities: Heating systems are deactivated based on mission needs regardless of outside weather conditions.

Military family housing and DOD schools: The heating season ends when the five-day average maximum temperature-humidity mix of the outside air, between the hours of 11 a.m. and 4 p.m., is equivalent to 69 degrees at 45 percent relative humidity or higher.

All Other base Facilities: The heating season ends when the five-day average maximum temperature-humidity mix of outside air, between the hours of 11 a.m. and 4 p.m., is equivalent to 65 degrees at 45 percent relative humidity or higher.

The cooling season turn-on is expected to begin in mid-May. The criteria for it to begin is:

Mission critical facilities: Cooling systems will be activated based on mission needs regardless of outside weather

Military family housing and DOD schools: The cool-

ing season begins when the five-day average maximum temperature-humidity mix of the outside air, between the hours of 11 a.m. and 4 p.m., is equivalent to 72 degrees at 45 percent relative humidity or greater.

All other base facilities: The cooling season will begin when the five-day maximum temperature-humidity mix of the outside air, between the hours of 11 a.m. and 4 p.m., is equivalent to 74 degrees and 45 percent relative humidity or

If you have questions or if you are experiencing problems with your heating/cooling system, call CES customer service at 225-5790/5791.

NEWS AROUND THE AIR FORCE

Space-A travel to Korea opens for non-command sponsored family members

OSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea (AFPN) — The United **States Transportation Command** in conjunction with the U.S. Forces Korea announced the opening of space-available travel for non-command sponsored family members effective immediately.

Expanding the spaceavailable travel policy to allow family members to travel unaccompanied to their sponsor's duty location is a significant quality of life enhancement for service members stationed in Korea.

Non-command sponsored family members may now travel Space-A in Category III if accompanied by their sponsor to

and from the duty location and Category V if not accompanied by their sponsor. However, family members may not accompany their sponsor when initially reporting, because the sponsor's travel is in a duty status.

U.S. retirement home residents get Korean War medal WASHINGTON (AFPN)

Republic of Korea Korean War

Service Medals were presented April 11 to 38 residents of the Soldiers' and Airmen's Home here.

The South Korean medal was bestowed on 18 soldiers, 15 airmen, three sailors and two Marines. Each also received a Department of Defense certificate of appreciation and a lapel pin.

New system delivers critical messages faster

HANSCOM AIR FORCE BASE, Mass. (AFPN)

Emergency action messages can now be sent to commanders who direct deployment of nuclear forces faster and more reliably thanks to the new "DIRECT" system acquired by the Electronic Systems Center. The system is scheduled to achieve initial operational capability by the end of April.

DIRECT has been designed to replace the existing Improved **Emergency Message Automated** Transmission System, commonly referred to as IEMATS.

RSOI '01



Sitting front to back, Lt. Cmdr. Jim Sarafolem, Cdr. Dave Coughlin and Lt. Col. Ken Thomas are among the more than 200 service members who deployed to Yokota throughout the past week to support U.S. Forces Japan during the RSOI command post exercise. Overlooking Thomas' shoulder are left to right Tech. Sqt. Sean Jaeger, Sqt. Joseph Hankal, and Lt. Col. Henry Nakagawa from **U.S. Forces Japan.**

Victims of helicopter crash arrive at Hickam

By Tech. Sqt. Chris Haug Pacific Air Forces News Service

HICKAM AIR FORCE BASE, Hawaii - The remains of seven U.S. servicemen who died in a Vietnamese MI-17 helicopter crash April 7 in Vietnam were honored here during a repatriation ceremony at 1:30 p.m. April 13.

The remains were flown back to the U.S. onboard an Air Force C-17 Globemaster III which carried the remains from Vietnam to Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, and then to Hickam.

Adm. Dennis C. Blair, commander in chief, U.S. Pacific Command, who spoke at the ceremony, stating that the "seven Americans served the United States with particular courage, working to heal the scars of war."

Following the Hickam ceremony, the remains were taken to the U.S. Army Central Identification Laboratory-Hawaii for final identification prior to returning them to their families.

'We can only say to the families who have suffered this loss that we grieve for your sons, husbands, and brothers - our teammates," Blair said. "We honor their service; we renew our dedication to the cause they served. We will never forget

The U.S. servicemen and nine Vietnamese were conducting operations in preparation for the 65th Joint Field Activity in Quang Bing Province, Vietnam, which is



The remains of seven U.S. servicemen who died in a Vietnamese MI-17 helicopter crash April 7 in Vietnam were flown back to the U.S. onboard an Air Force C-17 Globemaster III from McChord Air Force Base, Washington. The crew of the C-17 carried the remains from Vietnam to Andersen Air Force Base. Guam. and then to Hickam.

250 miles south of Hanoi.

month-long operations held four times a year in Vietnam to recover and return the remains of American servicemen still unaccounted for as a result of the Vietnam War. The cause of the accident is under investigation.

The seven military members

- Army Lt. Col. Rennie M. Cory Jr., Detachment 2 Commander, JTF-FA;
- Army Lt. Col. George D. Martin III, Incoming Detachment 2 Commander, 1st Bn., 32nd Infantry Regt.;

- Air Force Maj. Charles E. Joint Field Activities are Lewis, Detachment 2 Deputy Commander, JTF-FA;
 - Air Force Master Sgt. Steven L. Moser, Vietnamese Linguist, JTF-FA;
 - Navy Hospital Corpsman Chief Pedro J. Gonzales, Consolidated Divers Unit, San Diego, Calif.;
 - Air Force Tech. Sgt. Robert M. Flynn, Vietnamese Linguist,
 - Army Sgt. 1st Class Tommy J. Murphy, Mortuary Affairs/Team Sergeant, Central Identification Laboratory-Hawaii. (PACAFNS)

Drugs put an end to two Yokota airmen's careers

By Maj. Tom Ayze 374th Airlift Wing Legal Office

Two airmen from Yokota were recently convicted of several drug related offenses.

Airman Lewis W. Dodson Jr., of the 374th Medical Support Squadron, and Airman 1st Class Foster L. Rose, of the 374th Communications Squadron, both earned jail time for those offenses during the past few weeks.

Dodson was sentenced March 28 by a military judge in a general court martial to nine months confinement, a bad conduct discharge, reduction to E-1 and forfeiture of all pay and allowances. Dodson pled guilty to, and

was found guilty of, bringing hallucinogenic mushrooms. containing psilocin, a controlled substance, onto base

and using them, and conspiring to possess, possessing, distributing ecstasy.

Although Dodson pled not guilty to using ecstasy, the military judge found that he was responsible for the use of ecstasy because he aided and encouraged other airmen to use the drug. Dodson's charged involvement with mushrooms and ecstasy covered the time period from January through July of 2000, and took place in the dorms on base and in Fussa City, and in downtown Tokyo with other Yokota airmen. Dodson had faced a maximum punishment of 45 years confinement, a dishonorable discharge, reduction to E-1 and total forfeitures of all pay and allowances

According to Capt. David Young, assistant prosecutor in the case, Dodson argued that he used illegal drugs because he was having difficulty adjusting to life in the military and at Yokota. Young said this was no excuse.

"Members have many alternatives such as getting involved in sports, military, civic, or religious activities, or taking college courses," he said. "Counseling is also available through a diverse range of services from supervisors, to mental health professionals, to chaplains."

A federal felony criminal conviction will now follow Dodson for the rest of his life. This may limit his ability to vote or hold a professional license in some states.

"This young man took the easy way out - he focused on his own selfish needs and not those of the Air Force," said Young.

Rose faced a general court martial April 6. He pled guilty to all charges and specifications. Rose was by a panel convicted

of officers attempting to use marijuana, divers use of hallucinogenic mushrooms, use of ecstasy, solicitation of another airman to use hallucinogenic mushrooms and false swearing.

The underlying events occurred in the spring and summer of 2000, where Rose used the drugs with other airmen. Some of the uses occurred in the Yokota dormitories and others in downtown Tokyo. Rose was sentenced to six months confinement, reduction to E-1 and total forfeitures of all pay and allowances for six months. He had faced a maximum punishment of 20 years confinement, a dishonorable discharge, reduction to E-1 and total forfeitures of all pay and allowances.

"Rose now also has a federal felony criminal conviction on his records for the rest of his life and all because, for a period of a couple of months, he put his own selfish interests above the interests of the Air Force," said Capt. Paul Cronin, the assistant prosecutor in the case. Cronin went on to say that it was clear from the testimony in court that his supervisors felt Rose had plenty of support and was in a position to have had a productive career before needlessly throwing it all

Car sales know the rules

Information provided by 374th Airlift Wing Legal Office

Recently, several base airmen received non-judicial punishment for disobeying orders and dereliction of duty for violating base policies regarding the sale of used cars on Yokota.

According to the instructions that govern car sales on Yokota, people assigned here, or using this facility, may not transfer or sell more than four vehicles during any calendar year. This rule applies to the transfer or sale of vehicles registered with 374th Security Forces Squadron Pass and Registration section.

There are several stipulations to this rule that include giving Power of Attorney for the purpose of sale, selling by POA for some else, taking possession of, or otherwise participating in the sale of a motor vehicle. This limit is set to prevent personnel from using the base as a resource to operate an unauthorized car dealership. There is no waiver option to the limit under this instruction.

In addition, family units are only authorized to own one four-wheel and one two-wheel vehicle per adult licensed driver who is 18 years of age and older. However, a family may not own more

than two four-wheel and two two-wheel vehicles. But, waivers for the number of vehicles authorized for families can be approved through the 374th Support Group deputy commander.

To sell a privately owned vehicle in the resale or "Lemon Lot," next to Bldg. 124, sellers must obtain a display permit from the Yujo Community Center. Sellers must also maintain base registration requirements. Display permits are issued for up to 30 days at a time, however, the actual expiration date will coincide with expiration of the POV's insurance policies, base inspection or Japanese inspection, whichever is sooner. The display permit must be on the dashboard, within the vehicle, and renewed prior to the expiration date. Vehicles parked at the resale lot without a display permit or an expired one, may be cited, considered abandoned, and subject to impoundment. A \$25 deposit is required and is returned once the car is sold. There is also a \$10 monthly usage fee. Of course, you can also advertise the sale of your POV in the Fuji Flyer classifieds.

To reference resources for this article, see 5th AFI 31-201 and 374 Airlift Wing Supplement 1, Motor Vehicle Operations in Japan.

Pink picnic



photo by Senior Master Sgt. Gordon Van Vlee

A Japanese family picnics under the falling blossoms of the trees on the east side of base during the annual Cherry Blossom Viewing April 7.

PCSing with pets in the summertime

By Timothy Byrnes

374th Transportation Squadron

Many of you may have recalled last year the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the International Air Transport Association implemented strict guidelines on the air transportation of animals during the summer months. These regulations apply to you, the shipper, as well as all airlines.

As an added service, the Passenger Travel Element along with SATO Travel will request space for your pet both in the cargo hold, or in-cabin with the contracted airline serving your destination.

You need to provide the Military Personnel Flight Relocations Section with all pertinent information (kennel dimensions and total weight of pet in the kennel) so they can pass complete and accurate information on to the airline. However, keep in mind that there is no government entitlement to ship pets. All expenses are the member's responsibility, and you are required to conform to each airline's rules and regulations.

The airlines will not accept any animals if the temperature at any point on a planned itinerary is forecast to exceed 85 degrees Fahrenheit (29.5 C) at the time of travel. Brach cephalic (Snub-Nose) dogs and cats are very sensitive to high temperatures and will not be accepted when temperatures at any point on the planned itinerary exceed 75 degrees Fahrenheit (24 C).

The Passenger Travel Element will fill pet spaces on the Patriot Express before booking commercial travel. Each flight offers 10 pet spaces, and the Passenger Travel



photo by Senior Master Sgt. Gordon Van Vleet

pets. All expenses are the member's responsibility, and you are required to conform to each airline's rules and regulations.

Rocko waits in his carrier after arriving at Yokota on the Freedom Bird April 4.

Rocco belongs to Petty Officer Tom Slone and was transiting the base enroute to date information when transiting other countries, contact the nearest embassy or consumers of the most up-to-date information when transiting other countries, contact the nearest embassy or consumers of the most up-to-date information when transiting other countries, contact the nearest embassy or consumers of the most up-to-date information when transiting other countries, contact the nearest embassy or consumers of the most up-to-date information when transiting other countries, contact the nearest embassy or consumers of the most up-to-date information when transiting other countries, contact the nearest embassy or consumers of the most up-to-date information when transiting other countries, contact the nearest embassy or consumers of the most up-to-date information when transiting other countries, contact the nearest embassy or consumers of the most up-to-date information when transiting other countries, contact the nearest embassy or consumers of the most up-to-date information when transiting other countries, contact the nearest embassy or consumers of the most up-to-date information when transiting other countries are not up-to-date information.

Element will book these spaces on a first come, first serve basis. Flights are normally available for booking 60 to 90 days prior to travel.

Another option for members is to ship their pet unaccompanied. You may contact the airline directly for arrangements. Members who choose this option must deal directly with the airline. The Passenger Travel Element does not request space for unaccompanied pets. Additionally, the 374th Services Division Narita shuttle bus will

not accept pets. Members must arrange ground transportation.

Once you have obtained a confirmed itinerary for your flight along with your pet you may contact the airline to ensure you are informed of all current requirements that apply to the shipment of your pet. The Passenger Travel Element can provide all American Flag Carriers toll free telephone numbers here in Japan. Please keep in mind that the airline will make the final determination on weather or not the pet will fly. If the pet cannot be accommodated due to temperature limitations, the airlines will work with you to arrange alternate flights or dates. Each airline requests that you contact their reservation office prior to departing for the airport. They can then advise you if temperatures for any point in the itinerary are too extreme on the day of

For those requesting a free stop in Hawaii your pet will be held in quarantine during your stay. Arrangements for your pets must be made well in advance of travel. For the most up-to-date information when transiting other countries, contact the nearest embassy or consu-

late general office for each country on your itinerary at least four weeks before departure.

The Passenger Travel Element is available to assist you with the shipment of your pet.

But, you will need to remain flexible when traveling with pets during the summer months. During these busy PCS months our goals remain the same, and that is to get your pet to your final destination, the safest possible way. For more information, call the Passenger Travel Element at 225-9812 or 9813.

Let's flap our wings

Col. Kenneth Kim

374th Medical Group commander

It's hard to believe I've been at Yokota for nine months already. It seems like I just got here a short time ago. Approaching the mid-point of my assignment, this is a good time to look back at what we have achieved and think about our priorities for the future.

One of our most notable accomplishments, of course, was contributing to the wingwide readiness preparation. Members of the 374th Medical Group exercised hard, and our ability to accomplish the mission was validated with a resounding "Excellent" by the Pacific Air Forces inspector general for the Initial Response Readiness Inspection.

We also successfully implemented the Primary Care Optimization program. Each person at Yokota knows his or her provider by name and each primary care team provides personalized healthcare service to their empanelled members.

We provide excellent care to the people in the Yokota community, attested by many letters of appreciation and compliments I receive about the great service the 520 professionals at the hospital provide day in and day out.

But, enough with the past, I

want to share with you my direction for the future. As I take a breather after the inspection and ponder on what my focus should be for the upcoming

months, accomplishing our mission remains my top priority. We need to continue honing our skills to accomplish our readiness mission and provide consistently outstanding healthcare to the members of the community in a timely manner.

But, as we work on these two goals, I want to emphasize SERVICE.

At the change of command ceremony, I shared a quote from Mahatma Gandhi.

His words continue to guide me as he said:

"The customer is the most important visitor to our

He is not dependent on us; we are dependent on him.

He is not an interruption of our work; he is the purpose of it. He is not an outsider in our

business; he is part of it. We are not doing him a

favor by serving him; he is doing us a favor by giving us the opportunity to do

The 374th Medical Group is

"Could the flap of a butterfly's wings in Singapore affect a hurricane in North Carolina?"

> **Edward Lorenz** Meteorologist

a service organization, and as such we are here to serve you. How do we greet you when you come to the clinic for an appointment?

What can we do to make appointment process easier?

Do we provide accurate information when you have a question at the TRICARE office?

Does it take a long time for you to get your medications at the pharmacy window?

How fast do we get the result of a test to you when you are anxiously waiting?

Are we courteous on the telephone when you call?

Do we take the time to adequately explain a procedure when you are uncertain?

These are few of the service questions I ask everyday. My goal for the medical group is to be a premier service organization, second to none in meeting and exceeding our customer's expectations, and to provide the best healthcare service in peace and during times of war.

In 1963, meteorologist Edward Lorenz described a phenomenon called. "The Butterfly Effect." Common

sense would dictate that big causes have big effects and little causes produce little effects. Lorenz asked a question, "Could the flap of a butterfly's wings in Singapore affect a hurricane in North Carolina?" After considerable study, he concluded affirmatively. He concluded that tiny causes could have distant and often enormous effects.

I wonder what kind of effect we can have when we put forth that extra little effort to help our customers.

What kind of difference would we make when we greet people with a friendly smile, do our best to help another person, and go out of our way to meet a special need? I wonder if it is possible to solve a big retention problem the military faces today by what we do day to day to serve each other.

When people ask me what I do, I tell them "I am in the service." All civilians and military members working at Yokota Air Base are in the service business. I would like to challenge you to join me and make a commitment to provide better service to each other.

When we take care of each other and provide our best service each time we have an opportunity, we will feel better and we will be much healthier.

DUI Prevention

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Deadlines

The deadline for articles, briefs and classifieds is Wednesday the week before publication. For holidays, the deadline is one day earlier.

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The Action Line is your direct line to me. Use it if you have questions or comments about Yokota, which couldn't be resolved by your chain of command. When you call, please leave your name and phone number so you can be reached if more information is needed. Col. Mark Zamzow

374th Airlift Wing Commander





.05-.07=14 days walking, 6 points .08-.09=90 days walking, 6 points .10 and above=one year walking, 6 points Don't drink and drive, call 225-RIDE (All stats as of April 15)

April 10-15 DUIs:

Total DUIs in April:

Total DUIs in 2001:

Record DUI-free streak:

Advertisement

Advertisement

Movie Theater

The movie schedule is as follows: Today — Head Over Heels, PG-13, 6:30 p.m.; Someone Like You, PG-13, 9:30

Saturday — Valentine, R, 6:30 p.m.; Someone Like You, PG-13, 9:00 p.m. Sunday — Head Over Heels, PG-13, 2 p.m.; Someone Like You, PG-13, 7 p.m. Monday — Valentine, R, 7 p.m. Tuesday — Antitrust, PG-13, 7 p.m. Wednesday — Antitrust, PG-13, 7 p.m. Thursday — Pokemon 3 The Movie. PG-13, 7 p.m.

All movies and showtimes are subject to change without notice. For information, call 225-8708.

Commander's Channel

The Channel 18 schedule is as follows: Air Force News — daily at 3 p.m.

Tama River clean-up

The annual Tama River clean-up is April 28 at 1 p.m. Help Yokota's community relations program by cleaning up a mile and a half stretch of the Tama River. To sign up, e-mail: 374aw.pa@yokota .af.mil or call 225-7020.

Asian bazaar

The Yokota Officers' Spouses' Club is holding the Spring Asian bazaar 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday at Hangar 15. More than 40 vendors will sell merchandise. Proceeds from the bazaar are returned to the Yokota community through donations to the schools, library, clubs and organizations, family and youth programs.

'Wiz of the West'

More than 50 Yokota East Elementary School students and the Missoula Children's Theater will preform a musical production of "The Wiz of the West" at 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. Saturday in the Yokota East Media Center. Admission is free.

Recall

There is a voluntary recall of some Bar-S meat products. If you have Bar-S hot links, bologna, honey ham or sliced ham, do not use it. Return to the commissary for a full refund. For more information, click on www.bar-s.com.

Early deadline

Due to Golden Week, the deadline for the Fuji Flyer May 4 edition has been Monday.

Joanie Bartels

Come to the free children's concert at the Taiyo Recreation Center featuring reknowned children's recording artist Joanie Bartels Monday at 7 p.m. Call 225-7141 for details.

Mexican meal

Enjoy the taste of Mexico at the Samurai Cafe from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday. The Samurai is open to BAS customers, SIK meal cardholders and TDY personnel.

Secretary's Day

The Officers' Club salutes Secretary's Day with a special luncheon honoring these men and women Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information, call 225-8526.

Pet clinic

The Yokota Veterinary clinic will have an afterhours vaccination clinic Wednesday from 4 to 8 p.m. Vaccination appointments during this time are on a walk-in

Change of command

Col. Paul Williams will relinquish command of the 730th Air Mobility Squadron to Col. Kenneth Wavering during a ceremony Thursday at 10 a.m. in Bldg. 79. The ceremony will move to the officers' club in case of mission requirements.

Radio show

The next Commander's Corner radio show is April 27 at 7:30 a.m. on Eagle 810. Col. Mark Zamzow, 374th Airlift Wing commander, and Chief Master Sgt. Robert Kelly, command chief master sergeant, will host the call-in show. The topic will be "Commander for a Day."

Tama paintball trip

Sign up today at the Outdoor Recreation Office at Yokota for a paintball adventure at Tama Hills April 28. Single players welcome. For more information, call 225-4552.

Spring Fling party

The Taiyo Recreation Center is hosting a Spring Fling party April 28 from 1 to 3 p.m. Children ages 2 to 13 admitted free, and \$5 for all others. The party features

moved up. The deadline for that issue is crafts, games, kiddie karaoke, a live DJ, and treats for sale. For more information. call 225-6955.

Dining in

There will be a youth dining in at the enlisted club April 28 at 7 p.m. Tickets are available at Towers 1561, 1563 and 3004 or through Master Sgt. Regeania Goodwin at 225-8250.

Mini-conference

Anyone interested in early childhood care can learn more about the latest advances of the profession April 28 at the Early Childhood Care professional miniconference. For more information, call 225-8192.

Teen orphanage visit

The Teen Center is hosting a trip to a local orphanage April 29. The Teen Center will be closed during this time. Sign up at the Teen Center, or call 225-6793 for more details.

Membership night

Enlisted club members can enjoy a free evening meal with prizes and music at during their membership night from 5 to 7 p.m. April 30. Additional guests are \$8.

Band concerts

The U.S. Air Force Band of the Pacific-Asia will have at concert at 1 p.m. April 28 at the Toshimaen Amusement Park. They will have another concert at 1:30 p.m. May 3 at Akirudai Park in Akiruno City.

O'Club Casino Night

The Officers' Club Casino Night has been rescheduled for May. 5 Call the O'Club at 225-8526 for more information.

Pavilion rental

Plan your summer party or cookout now! Reseve one of three pavilions located around base. There is no cost for pavilion rental, but all rentals are first come first serve. Reserve a space up to 45 days in advance. Call Outdoor Rec at 225-4552 for more information.

Road closures

Luke Avenue between Bldg. 533 and Outdoor Recreation will be closed until May 15. There will also be a half-road closure on Alabama Avenue near the Food Court. Traffic will be one way from Airlift Avenue to the Family Support Center. The parking lot north of Outdoor Recreation will also be closed. The closures are necessary to repave the existing asphalt road under the Community Center project by the Government of Japan.

Troops to Teachers

There will be a Troops to Teachers seminar May 1 sponsored by the Education Services Center and presented by representatives from the states of Texas and Ohio Troops to Teachers programs. There will be two seminars, one at 9 a.m. and one at 2 p.m., in the Airman Leadership School auditorium.

The Troops to Teachers progtram helps retired and separated service members earn their teaching credentials. Once certified, the program helps them find teaching positions in their home states or whereever they decide to live. For more information, go to http://voled.doded.mil/dantes/ttt/ index/htm.

YEES volunteers

The Yokota East Elementary School is looking for volunteers to help with field days May 10-11. Volunteers are needed from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Friendship Field behind Tower 1563 to cook food, set up, assist with games and clean up. Rain dates are May 14-15. If you are able to help out, call Cathy Washington at 225-5503.

O'Club renovations

The Yokota Officers' Club has began renovations which will last until July 13. The club will remain open during this time. For more information, call 225-8526.

Volunteers needed

The Special Olympics is looking for volunteers. The next event will be May 12-13 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Wilkins Park. If interested, call 225-2417.

Saturday international

The Association for Regional Enterprise Advancement invites base members to join them every second and fourth Saturday from 1 to 3 p.m. for discussions and interaction with Japanese nationals. For more information, call 042-587-5990.

Flowers

Yokota base residents can now sign up for flowers at the base self help store.

Advertisement

Advertisement

WANTED

Trade — Sukura Buddy for Sukura. 227-4279.(1)

Car — To rent, inexpensive, from April 7 to June 14. 227-5498.(2)

Website design tutor — For HTML, will pay by the hour. 227-7211.(2)

LOST & FOUND

Lost — Coach's clipboard at Yokota Middle School during youth basketball season, \$10 reward for return. 227-4675.(1)

Lost — Orange male tabby with a kink at the tip of his tail, no collar, 1 year old. lost in east garden housing area. 227-7875.(1)

Found — GameBoy Color with one game, found in east garden housing near Michael Drive. 227-7875.(1)

HELP WANTED

English teacher — Native-speaking English teacher for a Hamura City junior high school. 225-7020.(1)

Tutor - For IFSM310 Software and Hardware Concepts, Algebreic expressions involved, will to pay fee. 227-9078.(2)

Tech. and Admin. Support — For TRICARE Pacific, email rhonda.ramsey@yokota.af.mil or call 225-

Beauty advisors — For Estee Lauder and Clinique. Strong customer service skills needed, email chargers@yta.attmil. ne.jp.(2)

PETS

Salamander — Free, has small aquarium with rocks, cannot keep because of frequent TDYs. 227-3689.(1)

Dog — Pomeranian mix small female free to a good home, comes with large kennel, food and accessories, friendly, affectionate and playful. 227-4554.(1)

Cats — Two female, DSH, spayed, declawed and microchipped, must stay together. 227-9391.(2)

Cats — Two free, sisters, same litter, prefer no separation, neutered, declawed, all shots, microchipped, and supplies. 042-530-1149.(2)

Cats — Male and female, both fixed, prefer placement together, great companions, 227-6066.(2)

Dog — Free to good home, 7-year old mixed breed, female, housebroken, sterile and microchipped, trained, playful, good with kids, cannot PCS with, all toys, laymats, dog carrier, records to new owner. 227-7662.(2)

<u>SALE</u>

Yard sale — 4617 Pease, east side Saturday and Sunday, 8 a.m. 227-9087.(2)

FOR SALE

Miscellaneous — Computer, Pentium 266mhz, 8gb harddrive, 128mb memory, 14-inch monitor with software and accessories, \$450; 21-inch Sony TV, \$100; couch and chair, light flower print with many pillows, \$100; gliding chair, blue cushions, was used for nursery, \$100.042-539-3879.(1)

Miscellaneous — Two super single

The Fuji Classifieds are provided as a free service to read- more than two ads per family, per week. Ads will run for ers. To submit ads. e-mail: fuii.flyer@yokota.af.mil or drop one week, possibly longer space permitting. The Fuii Flyer off at the 374th Airlift Wing Public Affairs Office (Bldg. 315). Advertisements must be for one time sales only, 25 words tion. For holidays the deadline is noon Tuesday the week or less and include a name and home phone number. No before publication.

waterbeds with six drawers, heaters, bookshelf, plus storage underneath, \$350 each; air conditioners, 22,000 BTU, \$200; two 18,000 BTU, \$150 each; two 12,000 BTU, \$100 each; small, \$50. 227-7662.(1)

Miscellaneous — Whirlpool 18,000 BTU air conditioner, 3 years old, runs great, \$200; wedding and engagement ring set, brand new, never been used, paid \$760, sell for \$500. 227-3481.(1)

Women's ring — Size 6 1/2, center stone Marquis cut with side baguettes, two anniversary bands soldered to each side of the ring, absolutely gorgeous, must see, approximately 2.4 carats, \$1,500. 227-2873.(1)

Miscellaneous — 20-inch girl's bike, like new, \$25 OBO; hand-made sequined wedding dress, size 8, must see, \$400 OBO; sliding door curtains for 3-bedroom tower, \$100; decorative hanging fluorescent overhead light, perfect for towers, no tools required, \$50 OBO. 227-5172.(1)

Sports equipment — Total Gym 1000, \$150; Spalding Match Play golf clubs, 3, 5, 6, 7, irons and 1, 3, wooden drivers with bag, \$150 OBO. 227-5582.(1)

Miscellaneous — Air conditioners, 12,000 BTU, \$250; 10,000 BTU, \$200 each; 8,000 BTU, \$125; 5,000 BTU, \$100; all for \$800; fence, needs some work, \$150 OBO 227-3839 (1)

Golf clubs — Tommy Armour T100 pure titanium irons, 3-pw, Firm Flex graphite shafts, exceptional condition, paid \$1,000, sell for \$350. 227-9061.(1)

Miscellaneous — Panasonic microwave, \$75: miscellaneous Little Tykes equipment, wagon, basketball hoop, play gym, etc.; Hunter green tiled dining table with matching hutch, \$200; lawn mower and gas weedeater, \$150; 18,000 BTU Whirlpool air conditioner, \$250; computer desk, \$100; awning for 4bedroom with free fence, \$250: entertainment center, \$50; all items in great condition, all prices negotiable. 227-2168.(1)

Miscellaneous — Air conditioners, Fedders 12,000 BTU, 4 years old, \$145; GE 10,000 BTU, 4 years old, \$95; Whirlpool 6,000 BTU, 4 years old, \$75; Whirlpool 6,000 BTU, 1 year old, \$125; carpets, 9x12 wintergreen, \$95; 6x9 ice blue, \$45; 6x9 cocoa, \$20; 12x15 wintergreen with some damage, free; Honeywell 110LX HEPA air cleaners, \$25 each. 227-2492.(1)

Miscellaneous — Phone line, \$350; kerosene heaters, excellent condition, \$25 each, 042-550-8342.(1)

Kick scooters - Two childrens scooters, purple, \$50 each OBO. 227-9234.(2)

Miscellaneous — Soloflex, upright and recumbent exercise bikes, Nordic track ski machine and assorted free weight sets. Short notice PCS. 227-7662.(2)

Miscellaneous — Enfamil, two cases,

deadline is noon Wednesday the week before publica-\$50; bottles and warmer, \$30; air conditioner, 18,000 BTU, \$75; GSR mountain

three games, two controllers, \$75; all OBO. 227-5319 (2) Air conditioners —Three Fedder 8,000 BTUs, 3 years old, \$100 each, all for

bike,\$150; oak dining table, \$500; three

kerosene heaters, \$75 each; leaf blower/

vacuum, \$45; loveseat, \$250; Nintendo 64,

\$250, 227-2422, (2) Miscellaneous — Sony Playstation, one controller, practically brand new \$40 firm: HP Pavillion 15-inch monitor, \$30: Phillips Magnavox 3-disc CD changer, \$80; infant car seat, \$30. 227-4259. (2)

Computer — AMD 500mhz, 64mb RAM, 10 gig hard drive, CD/RW, printer, monitor, scanner, \$550.(2)

Miscellaneous — Kenwood 7-disc CD player with original remote (for home), \$100; white stone table with ball and glass top, can be used for center piece or end table, \$100. 227-5366.(2)

Phone line — With satellite phone system and answering machine, \$400.042-51-7023.(2)

Miscellaneous — 12,000 BTU air conditioner, \$120; Sea View 15-gallon aquarium with filter, \$50; Centurion 21speed bike, \$100; Japanese bike, \$30. 227-4102(2)

Baseball cards — 1991 Topps Desert Shield Baseball Card Set, 6,400 existing sets, rare, \$3,000 OBO; many singles available also. 227-6344.(2)

Drapes — Light-filtering, thermal lined, two pairs, navy, 95x78 inches, \$25 each; three pairs, burgundy, 80x150 inches, \$40 each. 227-7407.(2)

<u>VEHICLES</u>

1994 Nissan — Avanir, power everything, aluminum rims, tinted windows, 4-speed stationwagon, good body, 19 months of JCI. \$1,550.090-9848-9258.(1)

1992 Subaru — Legacy GT turbo stationwagon, intercooler turbo, hood scoop, aluminum rims, tinted rear windows, overdrive, power everything, A/C, AM/FM, CD, MOMO steering wheel, recent base inspection, 15 months JCI, blue, \$2,150. 090-9848-9258 (1)

1987 Toyota — Town Ace van, JCI until Aug., automatic, A/C very good, runs great, skylight roof, recent tune-up, new front tires and battery, nice stereo, 10-disc CD, clean, \$1,900 OBO, 227-4124.(1)

1984 Nissan — Largo van, must sell, nothing fancy, runs good and gets you around, cold A/C, 1 year of JCI, \$800 OBO. 227-3423.(1)

1991 Cadillac — Seville, loaded, 34,000 miles, JCI until Jan. 2002, excellent condition, \$4,000 OBO. 227-9087.(1)

2000 Mitsubishi — Pajero Mini, 4wheel drive, 7,000 K, two years warranty, JCI until July 2003, AM/FM, CD, power everything, \$9,000. 042-821-5208.(1)

1990 Eunos — 300, Mazda persona, 4-door, automatic, power everything, leather, CD, JCI until Dec., \$1,000. 227-

1987 Toyota — Lite Ace FXV van, 4wheel drive, automatic, power everything, super clean inside, 10-disc CD changer, JCI until Dec. 2002, \$1,800, 227-4774.(1)

1986 Honda — VFR400 motorcycle, JCI until Oct. 2002, \$1,000. 227-4774.(1)

1992 Toyota — Master Ace 7passenger van, light blue with gray interior, great condition inside and out, CD, power everything, two captain bucket seats and bench seat in back. 227-2168.(1)

1990 Subaru — Legacy, dark gray, great A/C, AM/FM cassette, power locks and windows, well maintained, excellent condition, JCI until Feb. 2003, \$2,000 OBO. 227-7407.(1)

1989 Suzuki — Jeep, great local car, low miles and maintenance, super gas mileage, JCI until July 2002, available April 28, \$1,100. 227-5204.(1)

1990 Toyota — Starlett GT, turbo, JCI until April 2003, automatic, new tires, recent tune-up, available April 26. payments considered, \$2,400. 090-4750-

1993 Honda — Civic, dark green, 4door, tinted windows, CD and cassette, A/ C, automatic, JCI until Aug., \$2,999. 227-8762.(1)

1988 Toyota — Vista, available May 1, excellent condition, red, 4-door, AM/FM cassette, looks good, runs good, JCI until Aug., \$600 OBO. 227-2463.(1)

1985 Nissan — Van, available end of May, great condition, gray, new tires, A/C and radio, JCI until May 2002, runs good, \$600 OBO. 227-2463.(1)

1996 Toyota — Starlett, 3-door, 4speed, black, CD, A/C, 60,000 K, \$1,500. 090-8724-7871.(1)

1989 Toyota — Vista, 4-door, JCI until Aug. 2002, A/C, AM/FM, CD, automatic. 4-wheel drive, power steering, windows and locks, excellent car, \$1,600. 227-

1991 Nissan — Silva, 2-door, JCI until June 2002, A/C, AM/FM, CD, power steering, windows and locks, excellent car, \$1,700, 227-7662.(1)

Two 1997 Suzuki — Lets II scooters, under 375 miles, JCI until July 2003, \$600 each. 227-7662.(1)

1985 Toyota — Hi Ace Super Custom van. JCI until Nov. 2002, great family van, runs great, must see, \$1,700. 227-3481.(1)

1988 Nissan — Bluebird, automatic, power everything, 4-door, black, great family car, a couple of dents, \$1,000 OBO. 227-3952.(1)

1990 Nissan—Sunny, standard shift, great condition, \$1,300 OBO, 227-6224.(2)

1991 Toyota — Corolla, gray, 4-door, stick shift, 84,000 K, AM/FM cassette,

\$1,200 OBO,227-2391.(2)

1988 Nissan — Sunny Vanette, gray, automatic, sunroof, AM/FM cassette, \$1,800 OBO. 227-2391.(2)

1989 Toyota — Corolla, 2-door, 49,000 K, JCI until May 2002, \$1,200. 227-8938.(2)

1991 Nissan — Skyline, turbo charged inline 6, automatic, Pioneer MD deck and speaker system, A/C, power everything, \$2,950 OBO, 227-3958.(2)

1990 Nissan — Pulsar, 42,000 K, automatic, A/C, power everything, JCI until Aug. 2002, \$1,600 OBO. 227-3958.(2)

1988 Honda — Civic, 4-door, black, 86,000 K, automatic, A/C, AM/FM cassette, JCI until Oct., \$1,295, 227-6231.(2)

1992 Nissan - Bluebird ARX, automatic, A/C, AM/FM cassette, power everything, maroon, JCI until Sept., \$2,700. 227-

1999 Honda — CBR900RR, mint condition, \$7,000. E-mail Ziebellc@ zma.attmil.ne.jp. 267-6238.(2)

1987 Suzuki — GSXR1100R, U.S. specifications, 12,000 miles, new tires, Yoshimura exhaust, \$3,500. 263-7978.(2)

1986 Honda — CR125 motocross, fresh motor, race-tuned suspension, \$700. 263-7978.(2)

1986 Yamaha — SRX250, sport street bike, ready to go, \$250. 263-7978.(2)

1987 Subaru — Sanber Try 4-wheel drive, sunroof, A/C, JCI until Oct., \$900 OBO. email nissantoy@hotmail.co.(2)

1989 Nissan — Bluebird, JCI until May 2002, power doors and windows, A/ C, \$1,200 OBO. 227-6174.(2)

1989 Honda — Integra, automatic, A/ C, power windows, AM/FM cassette, JCI until June 2002, \$800 OBO. 227-2787.(2)

1985 Honda — City, AM/FM cassette, JCI until Dec. 2002, \$700. 227-2651.(2)

1987 Toyota— Town Ace van, JCI until Oct. 2003, sunroof, CD player, rear air and heat, \$750 OBO. 227-3373.(2) 1990 Nissan — Skyline, gray, auto-

matic, A/C, power everything, 4-door, JCI until April 2003, \$2,800 OBO. 227-4795.(2)

1989 Toyota — Cynos, green, 2-door, automatic, A/C and heat, AM/FM cassette, new tires, JCI until July, \$500. 227-5743.(2)

1992 Toyota — Corolla, gray, 4-door, automatic, power everything, AM/FM cassette, new A/C, JCI until Sept., \$1,500 OBO. 056-874-3805.(2)

1988 Toyota— Levin, automatic, A/ C and heat, chrome wheels, JCI until Nov., \$1,000 OBO, 227-4036.(2)

1994 Toyota — Starlet, silver, 4-door, new battery, 38,000 K, JCI until Sept., automatic, power everything, A/C, \$3,000 OBO, 227-2191.(2)

1987 Toyota — Supra, twin turbo, JCI until May 2002, A/C, power everything, \$2,100 OBO. 227-9087.(2)

1985 Toyota — Master Ace van, dual sunroofs, A/C, hot and cold box, power everything, \$1,600 OBO. 227-9087.(2) 1988 Honda — Concerto, JCI unitl

Feb. 2002, power everything, \$1,400 OBO. 227-4836.(2)

Advertisement

"Quotes" & Things

"There's a fly to deep center field. Winfield is going back, back. He hits his head against the wall! it's rolling toward second base."

> Jerry Coleman, broadcaster

Youth baseball opening ceremony: Join the opening ceremony of Youth Baseball Season at Taichi Field on the east side, Saturday. There will be a parade at 8:30 a.m. from the base theater. The ceremony begins at 9 a.m. Call the East Youth Center at 225-7441 for more information.

Cherry Blossom 5K run: is April 28 at Yokota Field. Show time is 7:30 a.m. and the race starts at 8 a.m. Sign up at the main fitness center or call 225-8881 for more information.

Skatepark competition:

Skateboard. BMX and rollerblade enthusiasts can watch the latest thrills of the sport at the skatepark April 28 from 1 to 4 p.m. There will also be a Japanese professional skating demonstration from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Tour De Tama IX: Competitors can sign up at Outdoor Recreation for the mountain bike race through the Tama Hill recreation area May 12. There are separate categories for different skill levels and a barbecue lunch after the event

For more information call 225-4552.

AMERICA'S AIRLIFT FORCE IN THE PACIFIC

FUJI SPORTS

Cop starts hanging with big dogs

By Senior Master Sgt. Gordon Van Vleet

374th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Mortal combat it isn't, but the pain is real, the bitter taste of defeat powerful and the sweet smell of victory mesmerizing for the fighting matches held at the Arnold Gracie world Submission Championship, March 2, 2001.

An added bonus to this year's competition was Yokota native Chad Griffin, who walked away with second place in the heavyweight division.

Griffin, a staff sergeant assigned to the 374th Security Forces Squadron, traveled to this year's host city, Columbus, Ohio, and after four grueling fights with some of the best in the world came out with a prize any ultimate fighter would be proud to own.

"There were probably 300 competitors at the Arnold Grace Championship," said Griffin. "The event is a precursor to ultimate fighting challenge. But, in the Arnold Grace Championship there are no punches or kicks allowed."

Many contestants are vying for a sponsor to help break into the ultimate fighting challenge, said Griffin.

Even through the rules are stricter than the ultimate fighting challenge, the results can be the same. "I saw one competitor leave on a stretcher and there were some torn ligaments in the knee," said Griffin. "But it was a very well run tournament with lots of good sportsmanship.

Similar to wrestling, but with fewer restrictions, the Arnold Grace World Submission Championship was a very punishing trip to the top. "I had three finger's stuck in my eye ... at the same time," said Griffin. But Griffin wore his badges of honor proudly as he posed at the end of his final match with his second place medal hanging from his neck.

Training for this kind of competition doesn't come cheap. "I've been training for six year's here in Japan," said Griffin. "I've been training mostly in Judo, Sambo (Russian form of Judo) and Jujitsu."

training consisted of sparring and conditioning, said Griffin.
"Getting ready for a tournament

I'd train four to five hours each day, five to six days a week.

During his stay at Yokota, Griffin trains at the Fussa Police Department. "It's a brotherhood between cops kind of thing. They

between cops kind of thing. They (the Fussa Police Department) allowed me to train with them. It isn't something that most people are allowed do."

But, just as important as the training was the discipline and mental attitude instilled upon Griffin by the military that helped make the difference. "My military conditioning helped me get in shape and the military discipline helped me with the fortitude to stay with it. Getting ready for this type of fight is more than conditioning ... it's a mental game."

In one short day, starting his first match at 11 a.m. and finishing his challenge at 5 p.m.,

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Griffin gave it his all.

"I fought four matches in all. The fights got harder because it was a single elimination tournament, so you get the better guys as your got further into the day," said Griffin.

The final match was with an that opponent wasn't necessarily better than Griffen, but he had the one key advantage ... experience. "It was about four minutes and 50 seconds into the six minute match when I tried to come in on my opponent and pick him up. I tried to take him down going for a chock hold. As I was going back I must have lowered one of my legs and he swiveled his hips out to the right and came up on my back. This forced me to protect my arm from an arm bar and I exposed my back. I tried to shake him off but I had to tap out."

Griffin took the challenge



photos provided by Staff Sgt. Chad Griffin

head-on and came back to Yokota a winner. "I have received nothing but support from everyone in my squadron," said Griffin. And with all the support he has received before and after the match it seems to be a sure bet that the next time Griffin goes to the mat, he will be the one with experience on his side.

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